

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A dual mode input device performing data input function by a moving action in a first mode, and performing data input function by a manipulating operation on an input element in a second mode, comprising:
  - a main body having a sensor window on a surface thereof, said sensor window moving relative to a plane to perform data input function in said first mode; and
  - a supporting member arranged on said surface of said main body for accommodating therein said input element, said input element moving relative to said sensor window to perform data input function in said second mode.
2. The dual mode input device according to claim 1 wherein said supporting member is detachably arranged on said surface of said main body and disposed over said sensor window in said second mode.
3. The dual mode input device according to claim 2 wherein said supporting member is separable from said main body in said first mode, and secured onto said surface of said main body in said second mode.
4. The dual mode input device according to claim 2 further comprising a securing member for securing said supporting member onto said surface of said main body.
5. The dual mode input device according to claim 4 wherein said securing member comprises:
  - a plurality of positioning holes arranged on said surface of said main body around said sensor window; and
  - a plurality of pins coupled said supporting member and having positions corresponding to said plurality of positioning holes, respectively, said plurality of pins being inserted into said plurality of positioning holes to secure said

supporting member onto said surface of said main body over said sensor window in said second mode.

6. The dual mode input device according to claim 5 wherein said plurality of pins are integrally formed with said supporting member.
7. The dual mode input device according to claim 2 wherein said supporting member substantially has a hollow semi-spherical shape.
8. The dual mode input device according to claim 4 wherein said securing member is a sucker disc coupled to said supporting member, and attached onto said surface of said main body by a sucking force so as to secure said supporting member onto said surface of said main body over said sensor window in said second mode.
9. The dual mode input device according to claim 8 wherein said sucker disc is transparent and coupled to said supporting member to serve as a bottom surface of said supporting member.
10. The dual mode input device according to claim 8 wherein said supporting member substantially has a hollow cylindrical shape.
11. The dual mode input device according to claim 8 wherein said sucker disc is integrally formed with said supporting member.
12. The dual mode input device according to claim 1 wherein said supporting member is pivotally connected to said surface of said main body, and pivoted to hide inside said main body in said first mode and sit over said sensor window in said second mode.
13. The dual mode input device according to claim 12 wherein said main body has a space therein, said supporting member includes a first portion for accommodating therein said input element, and a second portion pivotally secured to said surface and connected to said first portion for moving said

first portion between a first position over said sensor window and a second position inside said space, thereby switching data input function between said second and said first mode, respectively.

14. The dual mode input device according to claim 13 wherein said first and said second portions of said supporting member are integrally formed.
15. The dual mode input device according to claim 13 wherein said first and said second portions are configured to have a surface of said first portion at said first position substantially parallel to said surface of said main body, and have said first portion at said second position substantially completely hidden inside said space.
16. The dual mode input device according to claim 15 wherein said main body comprises a lid covering an opening of said space to prevent said first portion at said second position from escaping from said opening.
17. The dual mode input device according to claim 13 wherein said input element is a trackball, and said first portion includes a ring for receiving said trackball therein.
18. The dual mode input device according to claim 17 wherein said first portion includes a plurality of posts connected to said ring for supporting said trackball to sit over said sensor window.
19. The dual mode input device according to claim 12 wherein said input element is hidden inside said main body along with said supporting member in said first mode.
20. The dual mode input device according to claim 1 wherein said input device is an optical mouse in said first mode and an optical trackball in said second mode.

21. The dual mode input device according to claim 20 wherein said input element is a trackball and rotated to move relative to said sensor window to perform data input function in said second mode.